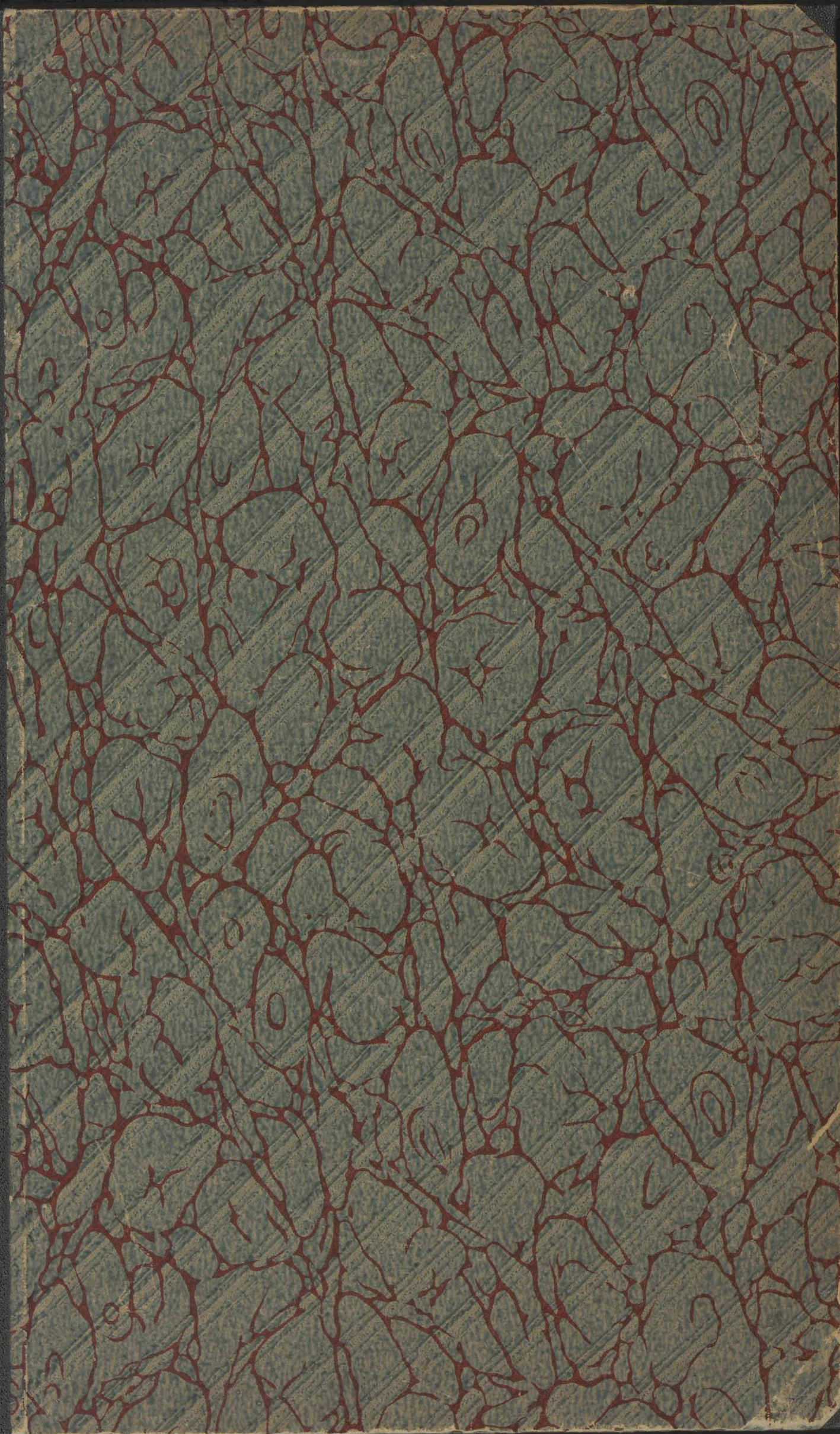


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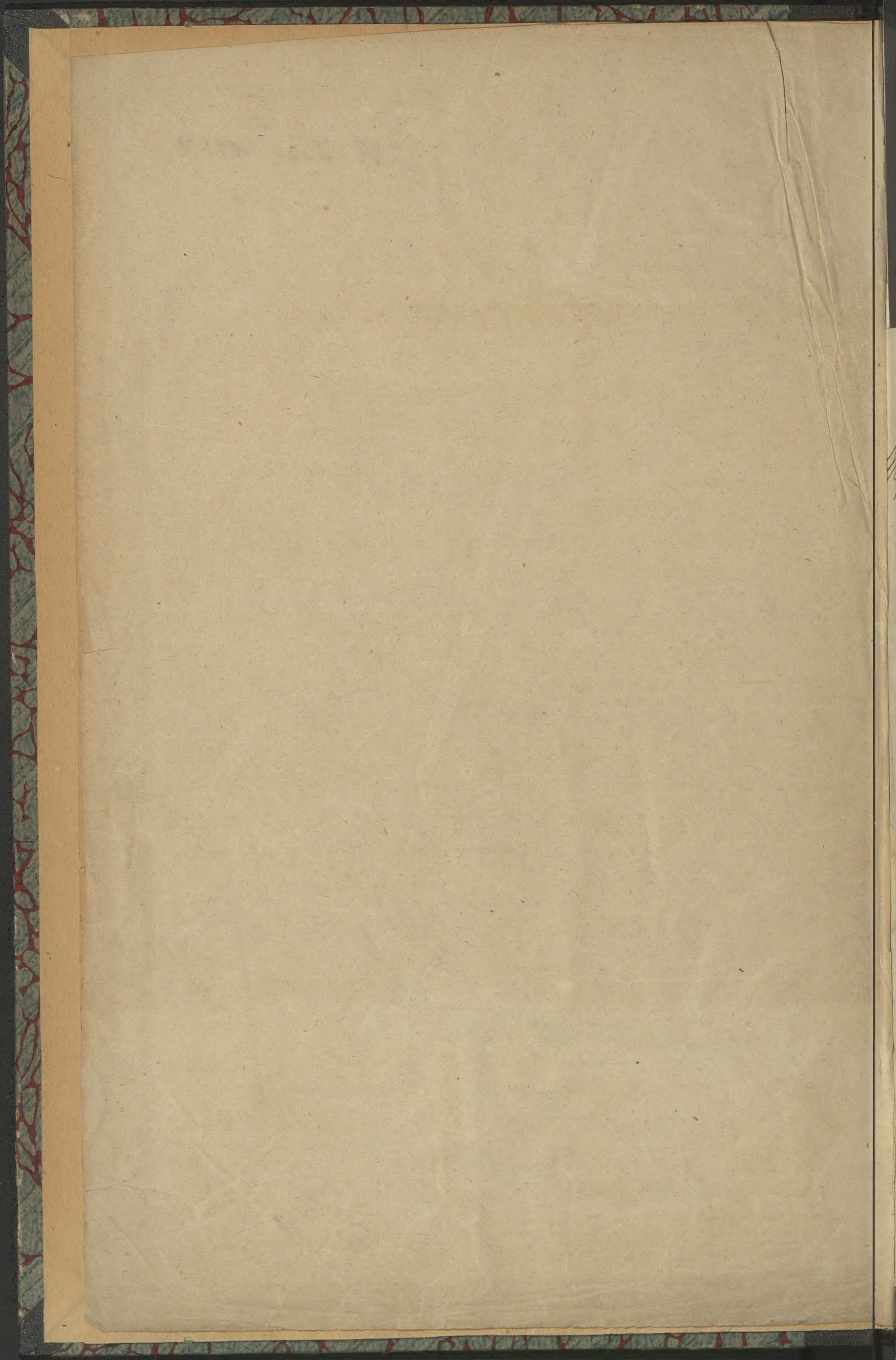


Oprowit jahoda, maj 1923.

N. Inn. 1123.

3. oryginalne
 Korespondencje
 Wafingtona
 Dan W. 1863
 9^{ty} mes. Gutowskiego

Darowane Bibliotece Uniwersytetu przez Pana Gutowskiego
 doktora Medycyny, lekarza wojsk tureckich, rzymskiego
 cesarza (mick. Czapkowski, autor powieści: Wierzyhora, Anna,
 Owrucanin, Stefan Garmiecki, Ukraiński etc. etc.) r. 1863.



N. Nov. 1123.

Mount Vernon 14th Jan 1784

1

My dear Humphry:

I have been favored with your letter of the 6th — Be assured that there are few things which would give me more pleasure than opportunities of evincing to you the sincerity of my friendship, & disposition to render you services at any time when it may be in my power.

Although all recommendations from me to Congress must necessarily be considered as coming from a private character, yet I enter very cheerfully into your views; and as far as my suggesting of them to that Hon^{ble} Body, accompanied by my testimonial of your competency to the execution of the duties of either of the Offices in contemplation will go you have them freely, & the enclosed letter, which is a copy of the one I have written to Congress on the occasion will bear evidence of my good wishes whatever may be the success. —

9

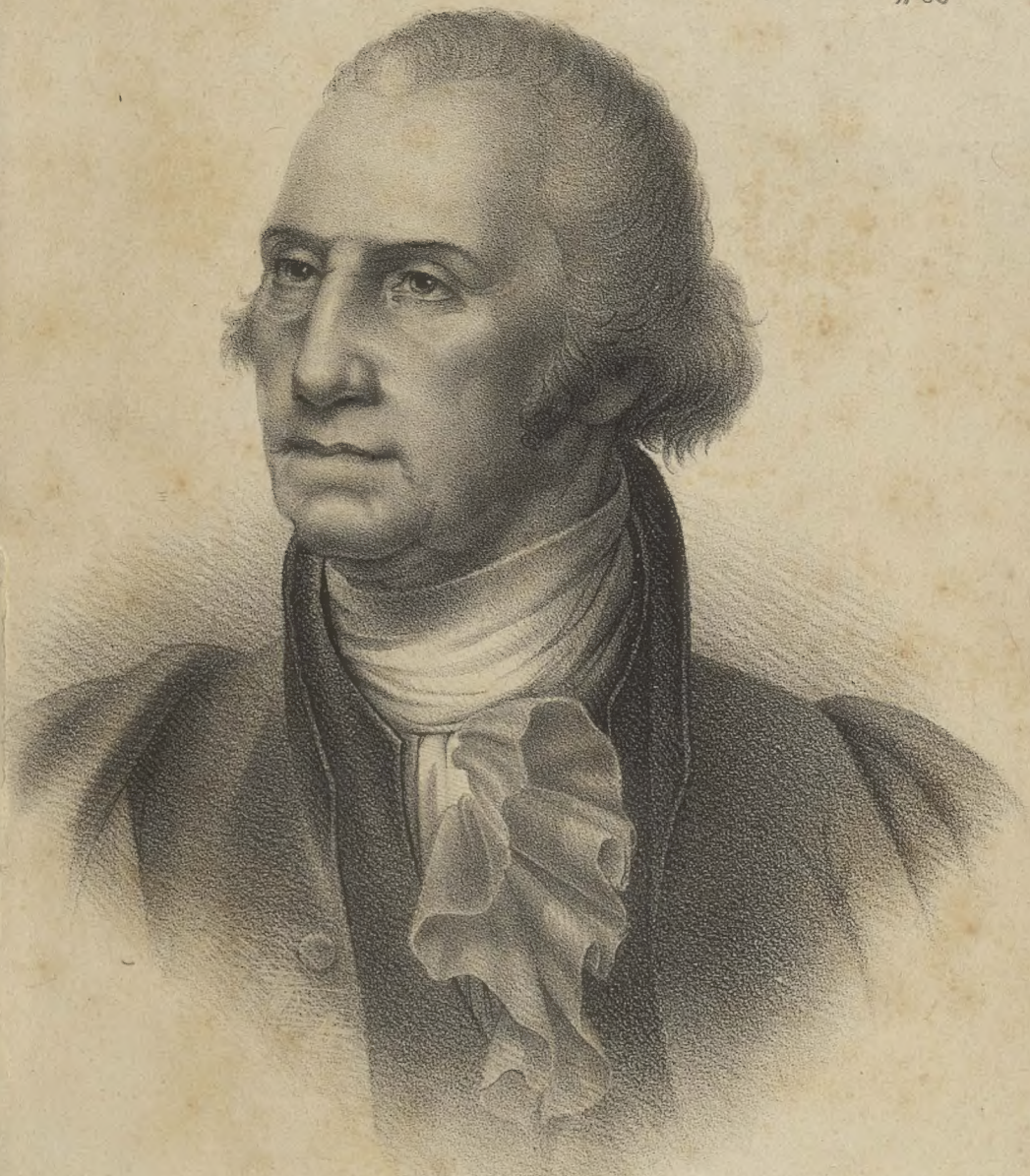
I cannot take my leave of
you without offering those acknowledg-
ments of your long & zealous services
to the public which your merits justly
entitle you to & a grateful heart should
not withhold - and I feel very sensibly the
obligations I am personally under to you for
the aid I have derived from your abilities
for the cheerful assistance you have affor-
ded me upon many interesting occasions
and for the attachment which you have
always manifested towards me. - I
hold in pleasing remembrance the friend-
ship & intimacy which has subsisted be-
tween us and shall reflect no opportunity
on my part to cultivate & improve them
being with unfeigned esteem & regard

D^r Sir

Y^r Most Affect^d friend
& obed^t serv^t

G. Washington

Col^o Humphreys

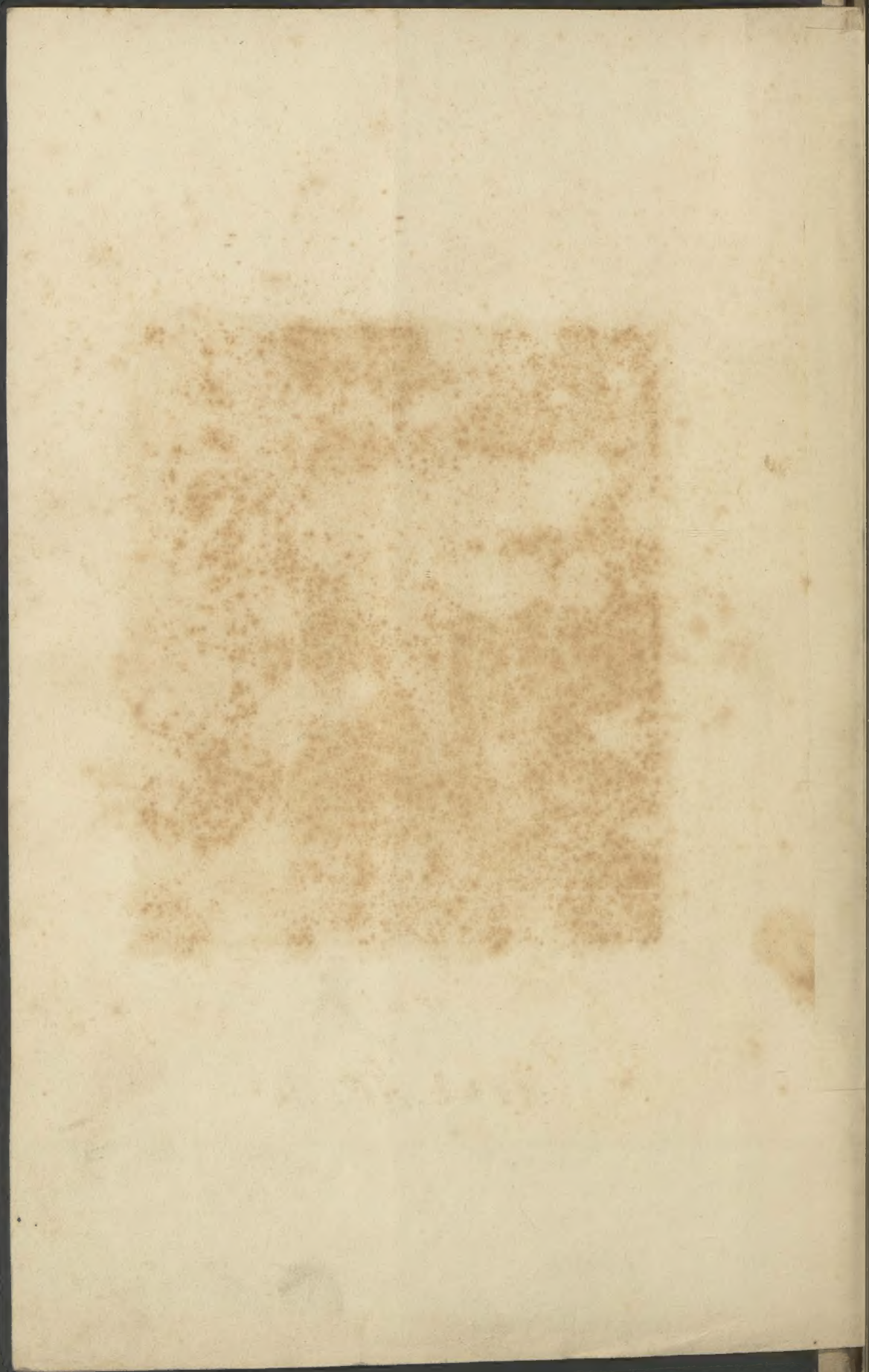


Rembrandt Plate. Fine.

Lith. of P. Haas, Washington City.

George Washington

Born February 22^d 1732.
Died December 14th 1799.



11. 12.

1000

Mon. Nov 26th 1786

5

My dear Humphreys

I am much indebted to you for your several favours of the 1st 9th & 16th of November. — The last came first. — In more keeping in mind the old proverb, was determined not to make more haste than good speed in prosecuting his journey to Georgia — so for the two first but lately.

For a publication respecting the confinement of Capt. M. A. J. I am exceedingly obliged to you. — The manner of making it was as good as could be devised, — and the matter will prove the injustice as well as illiberality of the reports which have been circulated on that occasion, and which are gathered up that Officer, as the author.

It is with the deepest, and most heartfelt concern, I perceive by some late paragraphs extracted from the Boston Gazette, that the Insurgents of Massachusetts — far from being satisfied with the redress offered by their General Court — are still at an open violation of law & Government, & have obliged the Chief Magistrate in a decided tone to call upon the Militia of the State to support the Constitution. —

What

What, gracious God is Man! That there
should be such inconsistency, ^{in his conduct}
duct? — It is but the other day we were
shedding our blood to obtain the Constitu-
tions under which we now live — Con-
stitutions of our own choice & framing
and now we are unsheathing the sword
to overturn them! — The thing is so un-
countable, that I hardly know how to re-
size it, or to persuade my self that I am
not under the vision of a dream. —

My mind previous to the receipt
of your letter of the first ult. had often
been agitated by thoughts similar to those
you have expressed, respecting an old friend
of yours; but Heaven forbid that a crisis
should arrive when he should be driven
to the necessity of making choice of either
of the alternatives here mentioned. —
Let me exhort you my dear Sir, to keep
me advised of the situation of affairs at
your quarter. — I can depend upon your
acc^{ts}. — Newspaper paragraphs unsuppor-
ted by other testimony, are often contra-
dictory & bewildering. — At one time these
insurgents are represented as a mere mob
— at other times as systematic in all their
proceedings. — If the first, I would fair-
ly hope that like other mobs, it will be over-
come & of short duration. — If the latter,
there surely are men of consequence and
abilities behind the curtain, who move the
puppets. — The designs of whom may be deep
& dangerous. — They may be instigated by
British

they are ever thing opposed to prevent
the effusion of blood, and to avert the humili-
ating & contemptible figure we are about to
make, in the annals of Mankind. -

If this second attempt to converse the
States for the purposes proposed in the report
of the partial representation at Annapolis
in September last, should also prove abort-
ive it may be considered as an unrequi-
vocal proof that the States are not likely
to agree in any general measure which is
to pervade the Union, & consequently, that
there is an end put to Federal Government.

The States therefore who make this last
dying essay to avoid the misfortune ^{of dissolution} would
be mortified at the issue, and their departure
would return home chastened at their
success & disappointment. - This would
be a disagreeable medicament for any
of them to be in, but more particularly
to a person in my situation. - If no
further application is made to me, of
course I do not attend. - If there is, I am
under no obligation to do it; but as I have
had so many proofs of your friendship -
know your abilities to judge - and your
opportunities of learning the politics
of the day, on the point I have exam-
ined you would oblige me by a sub &
confidential communication of your
sentiments thereon. -

Peace & tranquility prevail in
this State. The Assembly by a very great
Majority, and in very emphatic terms
have

have rejected an application for paper money; and shunned the idea of fixing the value of Military certificates by a scale of depreciation. - In some other respects too, the proceedings of the previous session have been marked with justice and a strong desire of supporting the Federal system.

Although I lament the effect I am pleased at the cause which has deprived us of your aid in the attack of Christmas Day. - We had one yesterday on which all the company (and pretty numerous ^{crowd}) were hardly able to make an impression. - In Washington, George & his wife (Mr. Leach had occasion to send into the Western Country) join in affectionate regard for you - & with sentiments of the warmest friendship

I am - sincerely
Yours

E. J. Whipple

Col. Humphrey,

British Councils - actuated by ambitious
 motives - or being influenced by dishonest
 principles, had rather see the Country
 plunged in civil discord ~~than~~ do what
 justice would dictate to an honest mind.

I had hardly dispatched my
 circular letters to the several State Socie-
 ties of the Cincinnati, when I received let-
 ters from some of the principal members
 of our Assembly, expressing a wish that
 they might be permitted to name me as one
 of the Deputies to the convention proposed
 to be held at Philadelphia, the first of
 May next. - I immediately wrote to my par-
 ticular friend Madison (& similarly to
 the rest) the answer contained in the en-
 closed N° 1 - In reply I got N° 2. - This obliged me to
 be more explicit & confidential with him,
 on points which a recurrence to the conver-
 sations we have had on this subject tributed
 to your mind without my hazarding the
 recital of them. - Since ^{in a letter} this interchange,
 I have received from the Governor the letter
 N° 4. to whom I returned the answer N° 5. -

If this business should be further pressed
 (which I hope it will not as I have no inclination
 or to go) what had I best do? - You as an
 indifferent person, & one who is much better
 acquainted with the sentiments & views of the
 Cincinnati than I am, offer in this State where
 the recommendations of the General meeting
 have been acceded to hardly any thing is said
 about it, as also with the temper of the people
 and the state of Politics at large, can determine

upon

Private and Confidential

upon fuller evidence & better ground than
myself - especially as you will know in a
light the States to the Eastward consider the
Convention & the measures they are pursuing
to contravene or give efficacy to it. - At
the last occasion, only five States were re-
presented - none East of New York. - Why the
New England Governments did not appear
I am yet to learn. For of all others, the dis-
tractions & turbulent temper of their people
would, I should have thought ^{have} afforded the
strongest evidence of the necessity of com-
pact powers somewhere. - That the Federal
Government is nearly, if not quite at a stand-
still, will deny. The question then is can it be
propt - or shall it be annihilated? - If the
former, the proposed Convention is an object
of the first magnitude, and should be sup-
ported by all the friends of the present Con-
stitution. - In the other case, if on a full and
dispassionate revision thereof, the existing
one shall be adjudged impracticable or
unwise, would it not be better for such
meeting to suggest some other to avoid if
possible, civil discords, or other impending
evils. - Candour ^{here} obliges me to confess that
as we could not remain quiet more than
three or four years (in time of peace) under
the Constitution of our own choice, which
was believed in many instances, were formed
with deliberation & wisdom, I see little prospect
either of our agreeing upon another, or that
we should remain long satisfied under it
if we could - yet I would wish to see a new
thing

N. Nov. 1123

Mount Vernon July 25. 1785.

My dear Humphreys

Duplicate.

3

Since my last to you I have received your letters of the 15th of last 7. and (I believe) that of the 11th of Nov; & thank you for them both — It always gives me pleasure to hear from you; and I should think, if amusements would spare you, business could not so much absorb your time as to prevent your writing to me more frequently, especially as there is a regular & safe conveyance once a month, by the Packet.

As the complexion of European politics seem now from the letters I have received from the Marquises de la Fayette & Chastellux. — the Chev. de Caduzanne, &c. to have a tendency to Peace, I will say nothing of war, — nor make any animadversions upon the contending Powers — otherwise I might possibly have added, that the retreat from it seemed impossible, after the explicit declarations of the Parties. —

My first wish is, to see this plague to mankind banished from the Earth; & the sons & daughters of this world employed in more pleasing & innocent amusements than in preparing implements, & exercising them for the destruction of the human race. — Rather than quarrel about territory, let the poor, the needy, & oppressed of the Earth; and those who want land, resort to the fertile plains of our western Country; — to the second land of promise, & there dwell in peace, fulfilling the first & great Commandment. —

In a former letter I informed you, my dear Humphreys, that if I had talents for it, I have no leisure to devote my time & thoughts to

to Commentaries. — I am conscious of a defective education, & want of capacity to fit me for such an undertaking. — What with Company, Letters, & other matters, many of them extraneous, I have not yet been able to arrange my own private concerns so as to rescue them from that disordered state into which they have been thrown by the War; and to do which, is become indispensably necessary for my support, while I remain on this stage of human action. —

The sentiment of your last letter on this subject gave me great pleasure. — I should indeed be pleased to see you undertake this business. — Your abilities as a writer. — Your discernment respecting the principles which lead to the decision by arms. — Your personal knowledge of many facts as they occurred, in the progress of the war. — Your disposition to justice, candour & impartiality, and your diligence in investigating truth, combining, fits you, in the vigor of life, for this task. and I should with great pleasure not only give you the perusal of all my Papers, but any oral information of circumstances which cannot be obtained from the latter, that my memory will furnish. — And I can with great truth add, that my House would not only be at your service during the period of your preparing this work, but (and without an unnecessary compliment I say it) I should be exceedingly happy if you would make it your home. — You might have an Apartment to yourself in which you could command your own time. — You would be considered, & treated as one of the family. — And would meet with that cordial reception & entertainment, which are characteristic of the sincerest friendship. —

To reverberate European News would be idle; and we have little of a domestic kind worthy of attention. — We have held treaties indeed with the Indians, but they were so unseasonably delayed that these people from our last acc. from the westward
are

are in a disconcerted mood - supposed by many to be
instigated thereto by our late enemy - men, to be sure,
good & fast friends; who, from any thing I can learn,
under the indefinite apprehension of the treaty, held, &
seem resolved to retain, possession of our Western Ports.
— Congress have also - after long & tedious delibera-
tion - passed an Ordinance for laying off the Western
territory into States, & for disposing of the Land;
but in a manner, and on terms, which few people
(in the Southern States) conceive can be accomplished.

— Both sides are sure, & the event is appealed to -
time must decide. — It is to be regretted however,
that local politics, & self interested views, obtrude
themselves into every measure of public utility.

— But on such characters, be the obloquy — My
attention is more immediately engaged in a project
which I think is big with great political, as well as
Commercial consequences to these States, especially
the middle ones. — It is by removing the obstructions
— and extending the inland navigations of our Rivers,
to bring the States on the Atlantic in close connection
with those forming to the Westward, by a short & easy
Land transportation. — Without this is effected, I
can readily conceive that the Western Settlers will
have different views — separate interests — and
other connections. —

I may be singular in my ideas, but
they are these, that to open ^{the front} a door to, & make easy
the way ^{those who will go to} for the Westward (which ought to progress
regularly & compactly) before we make any stir
about the navigation of the Mississippi, and before
our settlements are far advanced towards that River
would be our true line of policy. — It can I think be
demonstrated, that the produce of the Western territory
(if the navigations which are now in hand succeed,
and of which I have no doubt) as far down the Ohio
as the Great Kanhawa (I believe to the Falls) — and

between the parts above & the lakes, may be brought
~~either~~ to the highest shipping Port, ^{either} on this or James
River, at a less expence, with more ease (including
the return) and in a much shorter time than it can
be carried to New Orleans, if the Spaniards, instead
of restrictions were to throw open their ports, & admit
our Trade - But if the commerce of that Country sh^d
embrace this channel, and connections be formed,
experience has taught us (and there is a very re-
cent one in proof, with Great Britain) how next to
impracticable it is to divert it... and if that sh^d
be the case, the Atlantic States (especially as they look
the Westward with, in a great degree, like with, & in-
creases) except to excite - perhaps with too much cause
- our fears that the Country of California, which
is still more to the Westward, & belonging to another
Power. - Mr. Washington presents her compli-
ments to you, and with every wish for your
happiness.

I am - My dear Humphrey,
A sincere friend and
affectionate & very
Y^{rs} Washington

David Humphrey, Esq.^B

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